

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

1420 E 6th Ave, PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701
(406) 444-2452

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Fur Farm, Game Bird Farm, Zoo/Menagerie, Shooting Preserve

PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

Project Title: **Morgan Fur Farm**

Application Date: February 23, 1999 (Notice of property
acquisition received)

Name, Address and Phone Number: Nikki Morgan
1515 Royal Road
Belgrade, MT 59714

Project Location: Above Address

Description of Project: Applicant will construct outdoor cages to
house listed furbearers.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping
jurisdiction:

None

PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Provided
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats				X		
3. Introduction of new species into an area			X			See 3. Below
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			See 4. Below
5. Water quality, quantity and distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
6. Existing water right or reservation						
7. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
8. Air quality or objectional odors				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
11. Aesthetics				X		

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

3. Several proposed species are found regionally, but more typically in higher elevations and more forested habitats. As the animals will be caged they should have no opportunity to interact with indigenous populations.

4. There will be an impact on vegetation directly under the concrete pads under the cages. These pads are approximately 10'x12' making the impact relatively minor.

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Provided
1. Social structures and cultural diversity				X		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat				X		
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational activities				X		
8. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances)				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			See 10. Below
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity				X		

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided as comments.)

10. Infrequent inspections by FWP personnel will be required.

Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur? No

Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant? No

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

List proposed mitigative measures (stipulations) for license:

Animal waste shall be disposed of according to law. Fur farm to be located in circled portion of property as shown in attached diagram.

Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA:

EA prepared by: Mike Ross

Date Completed: March 4, 1999

PART 3. DECISION

Recommendation and justification concerning preparation of EIS:

Due to the lack of any significant impacts revealed by the EA it is determined that an EA is the appropriate level of analysis and an EIS is not required.

Describe public involvement, if any: None

DECISION NOTICE

All of the pertinent impacts of the project have been reviewed, discussed, and analyzed. Due to the minor nature and insignificant effects of the proposed action, this will be considered the final version of the environmental assessment. It is my decision to approve the Fur Farm License as proposed.

Recommendation for license approval: Stephen L. Lewis 3/9/99
for Wildlife Manager Date
James Krupp 3/9/99
Warden Captain Date

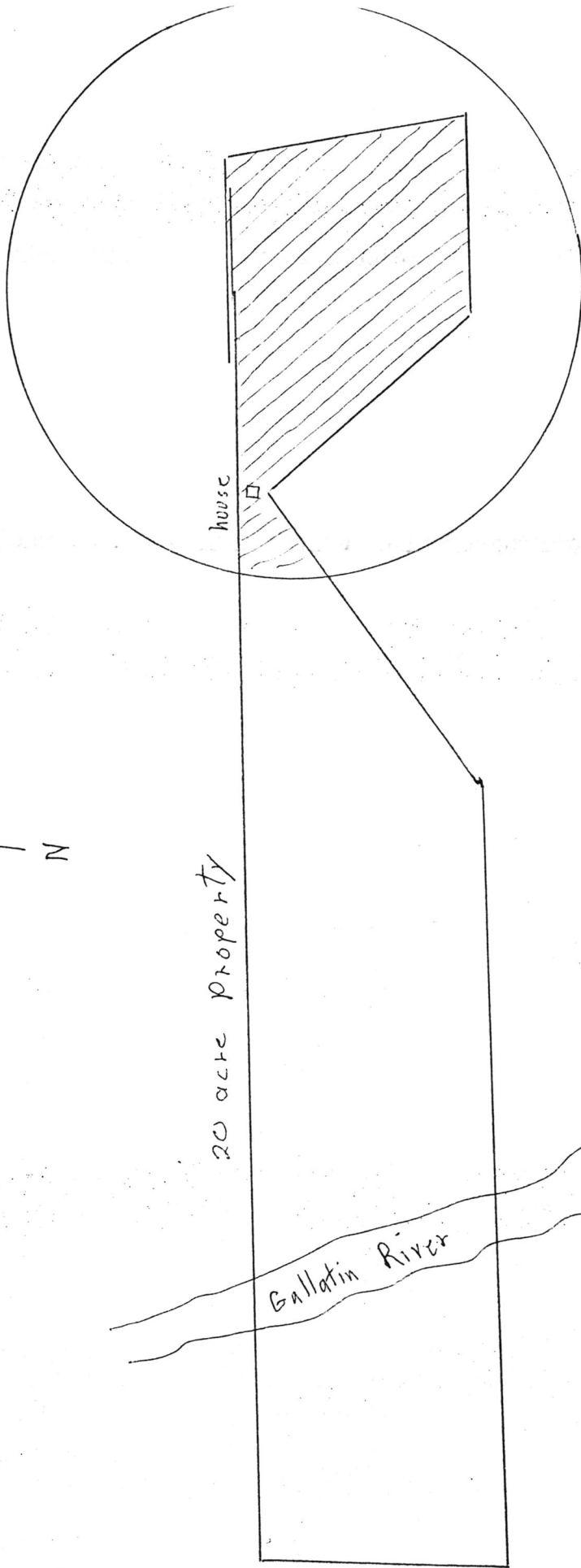
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20 acre property

house

Gallatin River

Attachment



REPORT OF INSPECTION
GAME, GAME BIRD, OR FUR FARM APPLICATION

Date application received Application Completed
Notice of property acquisition
received Feb 23, 99 Fee enclosed yes \$ 25.00

Do county records substantiate that the applicant owns or leases the premises where the operations are to be conducted? yes

Give number and species of any game animal, game bird or fur-bearing animal now on the premises. None

What measures are necessary for removal of native game animals (described in 87-4-410) from the premises if a permit is issued None

Has applicant constructed fencing as required by law and according to specifications for the particular species of game or furbearer? Applicant
has constructed cages

Type of fencing or pens 9 gauge 2x4 mesh 9'x7' on concrete pads
cage sizes will vary with species
Wire; mesh size or gauge and height; size and type of posts and distance between; overall dimensions of pens.

Number of animals or birds the applicant intends to put in the enclosed premises Number will fluctuate

Is the source of the breeding stock a lawful source? Applicant already owns animals
for initial stocking under zoo permit

Name of source N/A

Address _____

Do you recommend that a permit be issued? yes (use additional sheet for remarks if necessary) _____

Date of inspection 3/4/99

James B. Heck
State Game Warden

Approved _____
denied _____
Date 3-9-99
Date _____

Approved _____
Denied _____
Date _____
Date _____

Warden Captain James Kroyer

Helena Office _____

Regional Supervisor Stephen L. Lewis

Applicant must be notified of approval or denial within 60 days of application.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSPECTING APPLICATIONS
FOR GAME, GAME BIRD AND FUR FARMS

1. The applicant must complete all information requested on the application. This application is not to be used for buffalo, fox or mink, and migratory waterfowl. Persons applying for migratory game bird propagation permits should be advised that they do not need a state permit. They should be directed to Fish and Wildlife agents in Great Falls, Missoula or Billings for federal requirements.
2. Determine that the applicant lawfully owns or leases the premises where the operation will be conducted. Check the legal description with county records. If it is not lawfully owned or leased by the applicant a permit can not be issued. Attach a map when applicable (SCS, county, topographical).
3. Determine the number of native game animals or birds that are in the enclosed area. Obviously this is no problem on a small area such as bird pens, but would be more difficult on 500 acres fenced for big game animals. Determine how according to 87-4-410 native animals could best be moved from the enclosure.
4. Determine that the applicant has constructed proper fencing for the particular species. There should be adequate space so that the animals are not restricted. Also determine that size of mesh on bird pens is small enough to confine the birds, etc. Refer to ARM 12.6.1502, 1603 and 1703. Applications may be approved subject to completion of the required fencing (refer to 87-4-409(3)). However, a game farm license will be issued only for those legally described portions that are complete. The license will be amended as additional parcels qualify.
5. Determine that the source of foundation stock is a lawful source. Lawful sources are: Licensed game, game bird or fur farm operators in Montana. Out of state sources equal or equivalent to Montana may be reviewed by the Department before approval under provisions of Section 87-4 parts 4, 9 and 10. The Department of Livestock requires a Montana import permit prior to receiving any birds or animals from out of state. Applicants may not capture game, game birds or fur farm stock from the wild under current statutes.